

# Maryland SICC

STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)  
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services  
Early Childhood Intervention & Education Branch  
200 W. Baltimore Street, 9th floor, Baltimore, MD 21201  
(410) 767-0261

*Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Ph.D., M.P.H., Chair*

## SICC General Meeting

Johns Hopkins University/Center for Technology in Education (JHU/CTE)

6740 Alexander Bell Drive, Columbia, MD 21046

Thursday, March 7, 2013

1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

### Minutes

**Attendance:** Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Ph.D., (Chair), Liz Kelley, Amy Nicholas, Karen Larenas, Laure Barbee Matthews, Mary Leppert, George Failla, Linda Ramsey, Curtisha Hopkins, Rachel London, Monica Ortiz, Margaret Berman, Abila Tyler

**Guests:** Natasha Fields, Bicky Woolford, Anna Horevay

**Staff:** Donna Riley, Clara Coleman, Pam Miller, Brian Morrison, Nancy Vorobey, Sandy Smothers

Dr. Hussey-Gardner called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

#### **I. Welcome/Remarks/ Introductions**

- a. Participants introduced themselves, including guest members from various public and private agencies/organizations.
- b. Dr. Brenda Hussey-Gardner welcomed guests.

#### **II. Review/Approval of January 3, 2013 Meeting Minutes: Brenda Hussey-Gardner**

- a. Minutes were distributed via packet and for approval/edits.
- b. The minutes were reviewed and approved with correction.

#### **III. Announcements and Public Comments: Brenda Hussey-Gardner (If you desire to**

**make public comment, please notify Brenda at [bhussey@peds.umaryland.edu](mailto:bhussey@peds.umaryland.edu))**  
No public comments were offered.

#### **IV. SICC Report**

##### **1. Budget Testimonies (Brenda Hussey)**

In support of the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program (MITP) budget within the Maryland State Department of Education - Aid to Education budget the House Appropriations Committee, Education and Economic Development Subcommittee on February 20, 2013 and Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, Education, Business and Administration Subcommittee on Thursday, February 21, 2013.

##### **2. SICC Membership Update (Brenda Hussey)**

- Laura Barbee-Matthews
- George Failla
- Karen Larenas
- Mary O'Connor Leppert

- Monica Ortiz Neustrup
- Abila Tazanu

**Parent Members**

- Curtisha Hopkins (Anne Arundel County)
- Miji Kim (Howard County)
- Dr. Abila Tazanu (Prince George 's County)
- Karen Larenas (Howard County)
- Carolyn Fiume (Anne Arundel County-Resigned /Vacant)
- Four Vacancies

**3. Broadcasting of Meeting (Brenda Hussey-Gardner)**

- Joint SICC/LICC Meeting Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12- 4 P.M.

**4. Joint SICC/LICC Meeting(Brenda Hussey-Gardner)**

- a. Gather feedback regarding Local Interagency Coordinating Councils' (LICCs) structures, activities, and involvement in the creation of a broader Local Early Childhood Advisory Council; and get input on the development of agenda for the May, 2013 SICC/LICC Joint meeting.
- b. Location - Professional Development Center, Center for education Opportunity, 243 Paradise Road, Aberdeen, MD 21001 (Assembly Room)

**B. LICC Birth through Five Survey Results and Next Steps (Amy Nicholas)**

Purpose of Survey - To gather feedback regarding Local Interagency Coordinating Councils' (LICCS) structures, activities, and involvement in their jurisdictions Local Early Childhood Advisory Council and get input on the development of an agenda for the May 2013 SICC/LICC Joint Meeting. As of noon on Wednesday, March 6, 2013 14 jurisdiction's LICCs responded).

**C. Legislative Update (Rachel London)**

Rachel London state that the legislative budget hearings were heard by both the House and the Senate. Maryland State Department of Education FY 14 Budget Autism Waiver received an increase of \$1.2 millions; this translates to 100 additional slots.

**Senate Bill 832/House Bill 932**

- a. Child Care Center - Dispute Resolution - Requires MSDE to create a formal complaint process.

**House Bill 661**

- b. Teaching Techniques - Students with Special Needs and Limited English Proficiency- requires teachers PreK-12<sup>th</sup> grade to get more training about:
  - Students with disabilities,
  - English language learners, and
  - Appropriate behavior interventions.

**Senate Bill 691/House Bill 1286**

- c. Due Process Hearings for children with disabilities - Burden of Proof shifts from the family to the local school system.

**D. Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant (Liz Kelley)**

The Results Based Accountability (RBA) and Results Based Facilitation (RBF) Early Childhood Leadership Academies have been delivered to local early childhood advisory council teams of 4-6 council members from all 24 jurisdictions in Maryland. Evaluation results indicate the jurisdictions found the academies and the process very helpful.

- a. Ten major projects listed below:
  1. Early Childhood Councils



2. Maryland Excels
3. Early Childhood Breakthrough Centers
4. Early Learning Standards
5. Project 5 - MMSR
6. Comprehensive Assessment System (CAS)
7. Child Development Innovations
8. Family Engagement and Support
9. Workforce Competency and Leadership
10. Earning Data System

For more information - Update reports available at:

[http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child\\_care/challenge](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/challenge)

**V. FFY'13 Part C Application (Donna Riley)**

Everyone received a copy of the draft federal application along with the cover letter to local Directors for Infants and Toddlers Programs. They have 60 days to process the application. Many of the pages are new and based on a new COMAR. The State's policies, procedures, methods, descriptions, certifications, and assurances meet all application requirements of Part C of the Act as found in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The State is able to provide and/or meet all policies, procedures, methods, description, and assurances, found in Sections II.A and LL.B of this application.

**Finances Part C (Claudette Harvey)**

- A. Description of Use of Part C Funds for the Lead Agency - When completing this section include: Total for the number of lead agency administrative positions, salaries and fringe benefits funded either 100 percent and/or less than 100 percent with Part C funds; a general description of the duties which the positions and entail and a subtotal of the amount.
- B. Maintenance and Implementation Activities for the Lead Agency - When completing this section include: A description of the nature and scope of each to be carried out under Part C in maintaining and implementing the statewide system of early intervention services. Activities could include enhancing the Comprehensive System of Personnel Development, implementing child find strategies, or ensuring a timely, comprehensive, multidisciplinary evaluation for each child; the approximate amount of funds to be spent for each activity; and a subtotal of the amount.
- C. Description of Use of Part C Funds for the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) - When completing this section include: Totals for the number of ICC administrative positions, salaries and fringe benefits funded either 100 percent and/or less than 100 percent with Part C funds; a general description of the duties which the positions entail; and a subtotal of the amount.
- D. Maintenance and Implementation Activities for the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) - When completing this section include: A description of the nature and scope of each major activity to be carried out under Part C in maintaining and implementing the statewide system of early intervention services. Activities could include coordinating child find identification efforts, ensuring the timely provision and childhood transition, support for the ICC (travel), or other implementation and development activities of the SICC; The approximate amount of funds to be spent for each activity; and a subtotal of the amount.
- E. Direct Services (Funded by Part C Federal Dollars) - When completing this section include a description of any direct early intervention service that the State lead agency expects to provide to eligible children and their families with funds under Part C, and the approximate amount for each service.

- F. Description of Optional Use of Part C Funds - If the State uses Part C funds for initiating, expanding, or improving collaborative efforts related to at-risk infants and toddlers, the application must include: The name of the major activity; the approximate amount of funds to be spent; and a description of the activities.
- G. Activities by Other Agencies - If other State or local public agencies are to receive a portion of the federal funds under Part C, the Application must include: The name of each public agency expected to receive funds; the approximate amount of funds each public agency will receive; and a summary of the purposes for which the funds will be used.
- H. Totals – Enter the subtotal amounts for Sub Sections A-G found in Section III and any indirect costs charged as specified in Section IV.B. The sub total amounts (rows 1-8) should total the estimated grant application amount. (A State may apply for less than the full estimated allotted amount.

**VI: Online Early Intervention Resource: Child Outcomes Summary Tutorial**  
**(Pam Miller)**

1. The Online Child Outcome Summary (COS) Tutorial has been developed to help early intervention professionals understand and be successful with taking a functional approach to measuring early childhood outcomes. The tutorial is embedded with several examples and self-check activities, as well as a culminating case study activity. Tutorial Available on Maryland Learning Links [www.marylandlearninglinks.org](http://www.marylandlearninglinks.org)
2. Online Early Intervention Resources: Embedded Learning Opportunities  
The Embedded Learning Opportunities website is a new online professional resource designed to assist Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) teams with selecting learning experiences to integrate into families' daily routines in an effort to enhance young children's development of functional skills and behaviors across the three early childhood outcomes. The website is organized by the following common daily routines in which parents/caregivers and children engages:
  - Mealtime;
  - Bathtime; and
  - Bedtime.

A direct link to the site is provided in the Help and Resources section of the Online IFSP (after 3/12/13).

3. **Online Professional Development Resources: Preschool through Kindergarten NE/LRE Team Decision Making Module (Nancy Vorobey)**
  - The Preschool through Kindergarten NE/LRE team Decision Making Module has been developed to assist a team in making decisions appropriate for young children with disabilities ages 3 through kindergarten age. The module highlights best practices for effective decision making by supporting:
    - Extended IFSP and IEP teams in Maryland in selecting natural environments (NE) and least restrictive environment (LRE) for children with disabilities, ages three through kindergarten age.
    - Early childhood implementation teams in providing early intervention or preschool special education and related services to young children with disabilities in regular early childhood settings with children without disabilities.
    - Module available on Maryland Learning Links [www.marylandlearninglinks.org](http://www.marylandlearninglinks.org).



**4. Update from Brian Morrison**

On March 15 will run the data for this is a half of the fiscal year July 1 - December 31. This will be the last year that we assign Improvement Plans to Corrective Action Plans at the mid-way point of this year.

**5. Regulatory Adoption Process and Summary of Individuals/Organizations**

**Commenting (Donna Riley)**

**Process Prior to State Board Adoption:**

- Request permission of the State Board of Education to publish proposed regulation in the Maryland Register was done 10/31/12 along with publication of proposed regulations in the Maryland Register on 1/11/2013 and 1/25/2013. At least two Public Hearings – Five Public Hearing conducted and the 30-day Public Comments period was finish and ended on February 25, 2013.
- **Process Following Public Comments until State Board Adoption:**  
The Presentation in an open meeting before the State Board of Education on March 28, 2013 to request their approval and adoption of the regulations.

**Dr. Hussey-Gardner adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.**